



# Mishawaka Communicator



*Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.*

Mishawaka, Indiana

Jeff Rea, Mayor

December 2008

## A Letter from the Mayor

In an effort to improve the trash service delivered to our citizens, the City has entered into a new waste removal contract with BFI Waste Services of Indiana. This new contract will run from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2012. As part of this new contract, the City will take over billing for trash and recycling; your trash and recycling charges will be included on your Mishawaka Utility bill. In addition, the City will take over the customer service responsibilities. If you have any questions about your service or would like to report that your trash has not been picked up, please call the Street Department at 258-1660. We believe that the combination of these changes will improve your trash service and customer service.

## Trash Collection

Garbage, yard waste and recycling will be collected on a weekly basis, Monday through Friday anytime between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Collections will be made within 5 feet of the curb on a public street, or at the edge of an alley for those residents that have an alley or private street that abuts the dwelling and is easily accessible by equipment used by BFI Waste Services of Indiana. Recycling will be collected in the front of the residence at the street and shall be placed within 5 feet of the curb.

## Yard Waste

Yard waste will be collected by BFI Waste Services of Indiana with the normal trash service. Yard waste should be placed in plastic bags or containers not to exceed forty (40) pounds each with a maximum of five (5) items. Brush and limbs are not to exceed four (4) feet in length and six (6) inches in diameter and must be bundled or tied securely.

Leaf Pickup and Christmas Tree Collection will be provided by the City.

## Garbage Limits

Each dwelling unit is allowed to put out up to three (3) thirty-five (35) gallon containers, or five (5) thirty (30) gallon plastic bags each week. These containers are not to exceed 40 pounds each. (Residents regularly exceeding the maximum limits of this contract will subject the residence to assessment of additional charges for refuse collections from BFI Waste Services of Indiana.) A single item placed out for the trash need not be boxed or contained; however, two or more items must be bundled, boxed or otherwise contained.

## Vacancies

If a dwelling is empty, not in use, and not producing trash, billing and service may stop until such time as the dwelling is again occupied. Notice of vacancies must be given to Mishawaka Utilities Office on the vacancy form with a 30-day notice. There will be an administrative fee for placing a dwelling on vacancy and the home status must be renewed each billing period. If the home is occupied or producing trash, at any time, the vacancy status will end.

## Large Item Pick-up

Each dwelling unit is allowed two (2) large items per week to be picked up with their trash at no additional charge. This includes but is not limited to: chests, chairs, sofas, tables, beds, stoves, cabinets, refrigerators, etc. (Items containing Freon, such as refrigerators, air conditioning units, dehumidifiers, or freezers, must have the Freon removed and a certified sticker placed on the item before the contractor will pick up the item. Carpet and padding must be cut into four (4) foot lengths, rolled, less than twelve (12) inches in diameter, and secured with tape or heavy string.

## Hazardous Waste

Household Hazardous Materials should be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection facility located at 1105 E. Fifth Street in Mishawaka. The facility is located at the City's environmental center, and is staffed Tuesday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m. through 3:15 p.m. If you have a question on a particular item, please call the Mishawaka Street Department at 258-1660.



## New Trash Rates

Basic Rate: \$12.80 per month

Senior Rate: \$10.44 per month

**Senior Rates:** Customers who have reached the age of 65 years or older are eligible for a twenty percent (20%) discount on their monthly trash bill. This discount is available only to the utility customer of record, and applies only to the primary property where the senior is personally living. If the senior owns more than one property, this discount applies only to the primary property where the senior is personally living.

A customer must provide a copy of their birth certificate or driver's license to the Mishawaka Utilities Office for verification of age when applying for the senior rate; the discount will be applied to the next billing cycle.

**Call 258-1660 To report if your trash has not been picked up**

# NEW! Expanded Residential Recycling Program

Recycling will be collected by BFI Waste Services of Indiana curbside in front of the residence, on the same day as trash/yard waste pick up. The new contract has expanded recyclable materials that will be collected, below is a list of items that can and cannot be recycled under the new program. Items should be co-mingled in the red bin available from the Utilities Office at 126 N. Church Street, Mishawaka. There is a \$10 charge for replacement or extra bins.

The following is a list of materials that can and cannot be recycled. Please call The Mishawaka Street Department at 258-1660 with any additional questions.

# YES

This goes **IN** the recycle bin-

- **Newspapers**

Including inserts, coupons and advertisements

- **Mixed Paper**

Examples are office paper, file folders, magazines, junk mail, hard bound books, computer/fax paper, telephone books, brochures, all colored paper, spiral note books, hanging file folders, and envelope



- **Cardboard**

Break down or cut up cardboard so it fits inside the recycling bin, examples include cereal/tooth paste/shoe boxes, and gift boxes, Kraft (brown paper) bags, carrier stock (soda & beer can carrying cases, and paper back books.

- **Glass Containers**

All glass containers, for example food and beverage jars,

- **Aluminum**

Aluminum cans, trays & foil (trays and foil must be cleaned)

- **Plastic Containers**

Including but not limited to, milk and juice containers, margarine tubs, frozen dessert cups, six (6) and twelve (12) pack rings, laundry detergent & fabric softener containers, yogurt cups, syrup and ketchup bottles.

- **Steel & Tin Cans**

Including small scrap metals (household items only) and bi-metal cans



Your Environment.  
Our Commitment.

# NO

This stays **OUT** of the recycle bin-

- **No contaminated paper**

Examples are pizza boxes (greasy cheese contaminates the container), used paper plates, birthday cake boxes, wax paper, or foil/mylar gift wrap.



- **No Styrofoam**

ALL kinds regardless if there is a triangle or a number underneath the carton, packing Styrofoam peanuts, or Styrofoam egg cartons



- **No clothing or other textiles**

- **No ceramics or commercial glass**

Including coffee mugs windshield or mirrors



- **No hazardous, medical, universal or electrical waste**

Including lancets, syringes with needles, aerosol cans, light bulbs, batteries, paint cans, thermostats, fluorescent light tubes, cell phones, computers, TV's, or car batteries. (These items should be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection facility on 1105 E. Fifth St.-258-1660)



- **No construction or demolition material**

- **No waxed or coated cardboard boxes**

Examples include boxes used to ship fruit and vegetables

- **No diapers**

- **No carpet**



Call 258-1660 To report if your trash or recycling has not been picked up